

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 HA-05 IO-13 EB-08 TRSE-00

OMB-01 COME-00 AGRE-00 /104 W

-----051621 191432Z /47

R 141236Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5889

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN PEPR RW UG

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL RESULTS OF HABYARIMANA VISIT TO UGANDA,
FEB 28-MAR 3

REF: KIGALI 0377

1. PRESIDENT HABYARIMANA RETURNED TO KIGALI MARCH 3 AFTER
A FOUR-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO UGANDA. THE BLAND OFFICIAL
COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING:

-- THE HEADS OF STATE DISCUSSED "BILATERAL PROBLEMS"
AND DECIDED TO ESTABLISH A MINISTERIAL LEVEL COMMITTEE
WHICH WILL MEET TO DISCUSS BILATERAL ISSUES TWICE A
YEAR: SECURITY, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND OTHER PROBLEMS.
-- THEIR ECONOMIC MINISTERS SIGNED A COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT
"TO PROMOTE AND DEVELOP TRADE RELATIONS ON THE BASIS
OF EQUALITY AND MUTUAL INTEREST."
-- THE PRESIDENTS REAFFIRMED SUPPORT FOR OAU PRINCIPLES

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OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, NON-ALIGNMENT,
AND THE LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA.

-- THEY EXPRESSED THEIR "UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT" IN THE
STRUGGLE AGAINST ZIONISM AND IMPERIALISM (A MORE MILITANT
POSITION THAN GOR NORMALLY ASCRIBES -- PROBABLY
DICTATED BY CIRCUMSTANCES OF VISIT).
-- THEY DECLARED THEIR AGREEMENT ON SUCH THIRD WORLD PERENNIALS

AS SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPLES OF AOU, UN AND NON-ALIGNMENT;
LIBERATION OF ZIMBABWE, NAMIBIA, SOUTH AFRICA AND OTHER
AFRICAN TERRITORIES UNDER FOREIGN DOMINATION; NON-INTER-
FERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STATES.
THE COMMUNIQUE CONCLUDES WITH WORD THAT HABYARIMANA INVITED
MARSHALL AMIN TO MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT TO RWANDA AT A FUTURE
DATE, AND THAT INVITATION WAS ACCEPTED WITH JOY.

2. ALTHOUGH THE COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED AN OFFER BY UGANDA TO
MAKE THEIR SATELLITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS GROUND STATION
AVAILABLE TO RWANDA (EMPTY GESTURE SINCE GOR HAS NO MEANS
TO USE THE FACILITY), AND THE PROMISE BY BOTH TO EXAMINE
THE POSSIBILITY OF STARTING
UGANDA AIR FLIGHTS TO KIGALI
(A SERVICE FOR WHICH THERE IS LITTLE OR NO DEMAND), THE
COMMUNIQUE IS MOST INTERESTING FOR WHAT IT DID NOT SAY.
VIRTUALLY NO MENTION WAS MADE OF RWANDA'S TRANSPORTATION
DIFFICULTIES WHICH HAD STIMULATED VISIT IN THE FIRST PLACE.
HABYARIMANA WENT TO UGANDA HAT IN HAND TO TRY TO PERSUADE
AMIN TO EASE THE 35-TON LIMITED ON COMMERICAL VEHICLES THAT
WENT INTO EFFECT LAST OCTOBER. THE BAN HAS ALREADY CAUSED
PRICE RISES AND SHORTAGES IN SEVERAL KEY COMMODITIES.
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COIN, THE COMMUNIQUE MADE NO
MENTION OF THE THRIVING SMUGGLING TRADE THAT REPORTEDLY
BRINGS LARGE QUANTITIES OF UGANDAN COFFEE TO RWANDA (FOR
RE-EXPORT) AND DEPRIVES KAMPALA OF NEEDED HARD CURRENCY.
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3. THIS OVERALL SILENCE ON IMPORTANT BILATERAL ISSUES IS
A SIGN THAT HABYARIMANA CAME BACK TO KIGALI EMPTY-HANDED.
FROM ALL APPEARANCES, IT APPEARS THAT THE ONLY CONCESSION
HE OBTAINED FROM AMIN WAS A PROMISE TO DISCUSS BILATERAL
ISSUES ON MINISTERIAL LEVEL EVERY SIX MONTHS.
CRIGLER

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